

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 11, 19, 20, 22, and 24. Additions are underlined and deletions are in ~~strike through~~ font. Please also cancel claims 3, 5, and 18. Please add new claim 31. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a medical solution, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a solution comprising one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars in at least one compartment of a container, said solution having a pH of 2.5-3.5, and

b) terminal sterilisation of said at least one compartment and the ~~contents~~ solution therein, wherein the terminally sterilized solution contains low levels of cytotoxic degradation products; and wherein the one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars is N-acetylglucosamine.

Claims 2 and 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars are~~ N-acetylglucosamine is present in a concentration of 15-40% by weight with respect to the weight of the solution in said at least one compartment.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the terminal sterilisation is heat sterilisation at a temperature of at least 100°C.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein each compartment of the container is delimited from ~~the other/others~~ other compartments during the terminal sterilisation, and wherein the terminally sterilised solution containing ~~one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars~~ N-acetylglucosamine is mixed with a terminally sterilised pH adjusting and diluting solution in at least one other terminally sterilised compartment of the container, thereby finally preparing the medical solution.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the pH in the finally prepared medical solution is 6.0-8.0.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the concentration of ~~acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars~~ N-acetylglucosamine in the finally prepared solution is 0.2-15.0% by weight.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein physiologically compatible constituents in the form of carbohydrates, proteins, peptides, and antioxidants are present in one or more of said compartments.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the medical solution prepared is a peritoneal dialysis solution.

12. (Withdrawn) A solution comprising one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars and having a pH of 2.0- 5.0, wherein said solution is terminally sterilised and contains low levels of cytotoxic degradation products.

13. (Withdrawn) The solution according to claim 12, wherein said one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars are present in a concentration of 15-40% by weight.

14. (Withdrawn) The solution according to claim 12, wherein the acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars are chosen from N-acetylglucosamine (NAG), galactosamine, N-acetylgalactosamine, mannosamine, and N-acetylmannosamine in the form of monomers, oligomers, and/or polymers thereof as well as derivatives thereof.

15. (Withdrawn) A container comprising at least one compartment containing a solution according to claim 12.

16. (Withdrawn) A method for performing peritoneal dialysis comprising mixing a solution according to claim 12, with a terminally sterilised pH adjusting and diluting solution and performing peritoneal dialysis with the resulting solution.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the pH is 3.0.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein said ~~one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars~~ are N-acetylglucosamine is present in a concentration of 20-40% by weight with respect to the weight of the solution in said at least one compartment.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein said ~~one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars~~ are N-acetylglucosamine is present in a concentration of at least 30% by weight with respect to the weight of the solution in said at least one compartment.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the terminal sterilisation is heat sterilisation at a temperature of 121°C.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[6]] 1, wherein the terminal sterilisation is radiation sterilisation.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the pH in the finally prepared medical solution is 7.4.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the concentration of ~~acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars~~ N-acetylglucosamine in the finally prepared solution is 0.5-6.0% by weight.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the carbohydrate is glucose.

26. (Withdrawn) A solution according to claim 12, wherein the solution has a pH of 2.5-3.5.

27. (Withdrawn) A solution according to claim 26, wherein the solution has a pH of 3.0.

28. (Withdrawn) A solution according to claim 13, wherein said one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars are present in a concentration of 20-40% by weight.

29. (Withdrawn) A solution according to claim 26, wherein said one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars are present in a concentration of at least 30% by weight.

30. (Withdrawn) The solution according to claim 14, wherein the acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars are N-acetylglucosamine molecules.

31. (New) A method for preparing a medical solution, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a solution comprising one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars in at least one compartment of a container, said solution having a pH of 2.5-3.5, and

b) terminal sterilisation of said at least one compartment and the solution therein, wherein the terminally sterilized solution results in lower levels of inhibition of cell growth compared to a solution terminally sterilized at a pH outside the range of 2.5-3.5, and wherein the one or more acetylated or deacetylated amino sugars is N-acetylglucosamine.